

For Immediate Release

CONDITIONING KEY TO LOYOLA FOOTBALL

Winning a position on the 1971 football edition of the Loyola Warriors is as easy as wanting one.

Sound a little too simple?

Ask head coach Doug Daigneault, a veteran of nine seasons in the Canadian Football League with the Ottawa Rough Riders, the Montreal Alouettes and the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

"If a player really wants to make it, there's nothing short of injury that can stop him. The kid who gets himself in top condition will play."

Still sound simple?

Ask 60 prime candidates who sweated through two-a-day practices over the Labor Day weekend and through the first few days of this week in temperatures more fit for cooking a Thanksgiving turkey.

Better still, ask another 40 players who began turning out three nights a week for "rookie camp" as long ago as the beginning of August.

Four quarterbacks are among the survivors as the Warriors close out their first week of training camp. Among them is Art Niederbuhl, who played an understudy role last year to quarterback Gerry Verge as well as handling defensive halfback duties.

The other three candidates are freshman Neil Greeley, Mike Ruddy and Ron Komesh, both from Ottawa.

Among players returning from the Warriors' 1970 team and players on whom Loyola is pinning some of its high hopes are:

Tony Accurso, a halfback from City of Two Mountains; and Frank Belvedere, a halfback from N.D.G.

Belvedere, defending scoring champion with 72 points and the league's top ground-gainer with more than 1,000 yards, is in his last year of athletic eligibility and wants to go out a winner.

Complementing Belvedere is Accurso, who collected 42 points last season to earn second place on the Loyola scoring lists.

Loyola is in the midst of a rebuilding year but Daigneault and his assistants -- Tony Pajaczkowski, linemen; Peter Regimbald, deep secondary; John Rose, offensive back specialist; and Vaughan McVey, defensive line and linebackers -- refuse to use it as an excuse as they prepare for the 1971 season.

The fitness wrinkles they hope to iron out on the practice field before the September 25 home opener against Royal Military College, Kingston, aren't the only hurdles the Warriors have to surmount.

Besides the new players to assimilate, there is a new league and, in Daigneault, a new coach. Daigneault takes over for George Dixon who resigned to spend more time with his expanding business interests.

The Quebec University Athletic Association, replaces the Canadian Intercollegiate Football Association. Loyola in the Blue division will compete against Sir George Williams University, RMC, Université de Montréal, Bishop's University and McGill University.

The goal, however, is just the same -- first place and a crack at the C.I.A.U. championship at the close of the season.

Just how far the Warriors get depends on effort, a little luck..

"And fitness," says Daigneault.